

DECLARATIO
BELLI HUNGARICI,
NUPER EDITA.

A

SERENISSIMO
Michaele Apafio,
PRINCIPE
TRANSYLVANIAE
CONTRA
S. CÆSAREAM
MAJESTATEM.

Ad Exemplum Transylvaniense, Anno 1682.

*Universis orbis Christiani Regibus, Principibus, Rebus publicis Totius S.R.I.
Statibus & ordinibus, Gemiscientibus denique sub oppressionum pondere
Infelicis Pannonia Civibus, Ad sempiternam memoriam. Michael
Apafi, Dei Gratia Princeps Transylvaniae, Partium Regnum Hungariae
Dominus, & Siculorum Comes. Notum facio testerque veritate pura &
fide simplicissima.*

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*Impensis Francisci Smith Sen. apud signum Eliphantis utis Castro-
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THE DECLARATION OF THE Hungarian War,

Lately set out by the most Illustrious

MICHAEL APAFI,

Prince of Transylvania,

Against the

Emperour's S. Majesty.

According to the Transylvanian Copy, Anno 1682.

To all Kings, Princes, and Common-wealths, of the Christian World,
to the Estates and Orders of the whole S. Roman Empire: Lastly, to
the miserable People of Pannonia, that groan under the burthen of their
Oppressions: For everlasting Memory, Michael Apafi, by the grace of
God Prince of Transylvania, Lord of (several) Parts of the Kingdom
of Hungaria and Count of the Sicilians, I do declare and testify in sin-
cere Truth and unfeigned Faith.

LO N D O N:

Printed for Francis Smith, Sen. at the Elephant and
Castle in Cornhill, 1682.

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THE
MARTIAL

HUNTING

PERIOD

Prince of Wales

1885

WILLIAM.

London, April 1st, 1885.

Dear Sir, — I have the pleasure to inform you that the copy of "The Hunting Period" which you sent me has been forwarded to the Royal Library at Windsor Castle, where it will be available for your inspection. I hope you will find it a valuable addition to your collection. I remain, very truly yours, Wm. H. [Signature]

W. H.

Prin. of Wales' Library, Windsor Castle, April 1st, 1885.

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Declaratio Belli Hungarici,
&c.

The Declaration of the Hungarian War, &c.

POstquam indignantibus Fatis, & exitiosa Procerum inter se discordantium socrdia, a Principibus Hungarici sanguinis, ad *Austriacos* (unde vulnerum & malorum omnium scaturigo profiliit) devoluta fuisse Regia Dignitatis Purpura; concatenatis &c; in se quodam orbe redeuntibus consiliis id intentabant, ut labefactata & prostrata Libertate, qua ab aliquo seculis intemerata steterat, absolutum sibi in *Hungaria* & hæreditarium pararent stabilirentque Dominatum.

Et licet ex fundamento Liberae Electionis (qua inter *Hungaros* a primordiis Regni prima & fundamentalis Lex est) juramenti sanctitate obstringerentur, ne in Prajudicium Legum & Privilegiorum Regni quicquam prasumerent; varii tamen praetextus quæsiti, ut convulsis Libertatibus animi Regnicolarum exacerbarentur. Ad hoc congruens & validum Dominationis arcanum reputabant spargere & foovere dissensionum materiem, ut capaciora ingenia discordi Libertati obnoxia, in transversum agerent, faciliori tandem modo vincenda & supprimenda.

Nec in hoc solum Tigrino substituit postera Dominationis cupiditas, sed per ingentes calamitates, & intolerabilem rigorem, quippe fidei & jurisjurandi repugnis, in omnes promiscue Status, effictum gravabatur;

After that by the indignation of Heaven, and the pernicious negligence of the Nobles at discord among themselves, the royal purple and Dignity was dissolved from the Princes of the Hungarian Blood upon the Austrian Princes (whence all our Evils and Miseries have taken rise and flowed forth) they have with combined and a continued Series of Councils endeavoured to impair and tread under that Liberty, which from some Ages had remained untouched, so to get and establish for themselves an absolute and hereditary Domination in Hungary.

And although upon the foundation of a free Election (which among the *Hungarians* even from the very beginning of the Kingdoms is the chief and fundamental Law) they were bound by the Sacredness of an Oath, that they should not attempt any thing in prejudice of the Laws and Privileges of the Kingdom, yet sought they various Pretexts to violate Liberties, that thereby the Minds of the Inhabitants might be exasperated; to this end they counted it as agreeable and mighty Secret of Domination, to spread and foment Matters of Discord, that they might drive the greater Wits (apt to abuse Liberty by dissention) into Confusion, the more easily at length to be overcome and suppress'd.

Neither in these bounds only stayed this preposterous Lust of Domination, but by huge Calamities and intolerable Rigors, having broken the Bars of Faith and Oath, they rushed violently upon all States pro-

miscuously, and this was the End and Scope of all their Intentions, that by smooth and cunning Arts, but if these succeeded not, by open force, (the offended God secretly permitting) to overthrow the Safeguards of the Laws and Privileges of the Kingdom, or that it was done because the fatal period of a flourishing Kingdom was now at hand, that they who refused to obey the Lawful Prince of native blood, might against their will endure a stranger for their Lord.

To these Evils was added the Contempt of the Nobility and Chief Men of the Kingdom; whb, maugre the power of Laws, were by little and little excluded or removed from Dignities and Publick Offices, and subjected to the Command and Insolent Domination of Foreigners: thus Injuries daily increasing, and Power growing strong, the state of *Hungary* was fallen so deeply that scarce the image and footsteps of ancient Liberty could be any longer known; whatsoever seemed illustrious and high, was neglected and born down, ruine and destruction was prepared for every formidable Courage or Virtue.

Petitions profited not, nor Lamentations; in vain were Appeals made to the King's Faith and Publick Rights; will stood for reason, yea, whatever they listed and thought fit was done according to the measure of over-grown Power; Complaints were sometime admitted but for a shew and revenge, by vain and fruitless words sent back, more often were they eluded by upbraiding and mockery.

The ambition of Governors and Officers of the King, with their insatiable Covetousness and deadly exercise of Cruelty, were grown to such a heighth, that the having of Riches rendered Men suspected and

idque erat omnium intentionum finis & determinatus conatus, ut lentis & ingeniosis artibus, & si haec non succederent, aperta vi Privilegiorum Regni Legumque praesidia evertentur occulto irati numinis permissu; an quod florenti Regno fatalis periodus immineret, factum; ut qui legitimo nativi sanguinis Principi parere reauerent, alienigenam Dominum inviti paterentur?

Accedebat his malis Procerum Regni Nobilitatisque contemptus, qui dignitatibus & muneribus publicis, contra vim Legum, paulatim exclusi, vel remoti, extraneorum imperio, & insolenti Dominatui subjiciebantur: ita crescentibus in dies injuriis & invalascente potentia, eo praecepsit prolapsus erat *Hungariae* status, ut antiquæ Libertatis vix imago & vestigia amplius cognoscerentur; quicquid illustre videbatur & excelsum, neglectum erat & attritum; ruina & exitium parabatur omni formidolose virtuti.

Non preces proderant, non lamenta; frustranea ad fidem Regiam & ad Jura publica provocatio. Stabat pro ratione voluntas, imo quicquid libebat & expediebat actum; ad normam præsumidae potestatis, admisso aliquando, sed in speciem & vindictam, quarelæ, per vanæ & irrita verba remissæ, saepius per ludibrium & exprobrationem elusa.

Ambitus Praefectorum, Officiolumque Regis & eorundem infatibilis avaritia, atque funestum crudelitatis exercitium, in tantum excreverant, ut suspecti redderentur & in Regem Statumque publicum noxii;

qui divitias haberent: hinc extorta per sceleratissimos praetextus opes, per distincta & abrasa Bona, ut vel suam ingluviem satiarent hirudines, quibus ruere aut stare *Hungarum* perinde erat; vel ærarium camera saginaretur, spoliarium miserorum & atrocium prædarum infame receptaculum. Proscripta pridem erant vera rerum & congrua vocabula, quippe Bona aliena in pretium proditionis largiri, clementia: Exulantum & illegaliter proscriptorum fortunas inter nothos Patriæ distribuere, Liberalitas; innocentibus veniam concedere, Titulo misericordiae colorabatur. Leges, jura, judicia: breviter, Divina & humana omnia penes *Germans* erant; in Regno, egestas, damna, dedecora & abominanda rerum imago.

obnoxious to the King and Publick State: hence, by most wicked pretences, Riches were extorted, Goods sequestred and taken away, that either the Leaches (to whom it was all one whether *Hungary* stood or fell) might satiate their greedy Maws, or the Exchequer (the ruine of the miserable, and infamous receptacle of horrible plunders) be cram'd. The true and genuine appellation of things were long since banish'd; for to bestow other Mens Estates for a Reward to Traitors, was called Clemency; to distribute the Fortunes of others (in exile and illegally banish'd) among the Bastards of their Country, Liberality; to pardon the Innocent, was coloured with a title of Mercy, Laws, Rights, Judgments: In short, all, both Divine and Civil Affairs, were in the hands of the *Germans*, but in the Kingdom, Poverty and Oppression, with a shameful and abominable face of things.

With these and other almost innumerable Injuries, when the vigorous minds, and such as were impatient of slavery, were above measure oppressed, at last their too long Patience being turned into Revenge, they betook themselves to just and lawful Remedies, and calling to mind, that by their free Suffrages they had chosen a King, not an absolute Lord, they endeavoured to reduce that extravagant and indirect Form of Government to its due course.

Remedium igitur ex Bello sumptum, statim festini occursum; & ex communi metu, & jactura Libertatum unanimans societas, bonitas insuper causæ animarunt nobilissimam gentem, ut arma necessaria & justa capelleret, funeratamque Libertatem ex Tenore Decreti Andrea Secundi Regis cognomento Hierosolymitanæ, citra infidelitatis vel rebellionis notam, ad pristine integritatem

For remedy therefore they betook themselves to War, for with sudden Conferences, and by reason of common Fears, and loss of Liberty, an unaninating Society: moreover, the goodness of the Cause incourage the noble Nation to take up just and necessary Arms, thereby to endeavour the restoration of their buried Liberty to the splendour of its former Integrity, according to the tenor of the

the Decree of King *Andrew the Second*, surnamed of *Jerusalem*, and that without any mark of unfaithfulness or rebellion.

The first that attack'd Luxuriant Power, was the Magnanimous Hero, *Stephen Botskai*, a Man of excellent Wit, and famous for Prudence and Warlike Vertue, and esteemed greater than a private man: whilst yet private, this Man being exasperated by great Injuries, opposed himself to the raging Violence with small Forces indeed, but with a great and undaunted Courage, and with a valiant and heroic Mind, falling upon a part of the Emperour's Army, did happily overthrow it, and put them to flight; and following on his first Victory, he filled both the Kingdom and the World with his wonderful Successes, having justly deserved by the unanimous consent of the *Hungarians*, to be declared the Prince of *Hungary* and *Transilvania*, being the restorer of Liberty; which, to his *Immortal glory*, he not only raised from the dust, but also prescribed the manner of Governing to the then King (*vñd.*) *Rudolph the Second* and his Successors, that they might no longer transgres their Power limited and bounded by Law.

Now Peace and Publick Tranquillity seemed to be well provided, for molt ample Articles being established by the Treaty, in which by the Faith and Publick Deed of the King, provision was made, that both Ecclesiastic and Civil Liberty shoud remain safe and secure: but not long after, the Inhabitants found by experience then hope deceived them, and that the expectations of Mortals have but a slippery foundation: for the molt *Magnificos Botskai* being hatch'd away, a little after the Peace, and so by miniature death, leaving Grief to the *Hungarians*, and a new Occasion to the ambitious, whilst almost

tatis splendorem vindicare annitetur.

Primus qui luxuriantem potentiam aggressus est, erat magnanimus ille Heros *Stephanus Bocskai*, Vir Excel-lentis ingenii, sagacitate & virtute bellicâ Illustris, majorque privatô judicatus, dum adhuc privatus esset: is ingentibus exacerbatus injuriis, parvo equidem copiarum numero, sed maximo & imperterrito animo, saevienti violentiæ se se opposuit, partemque Cæsareani exercitū, forti & heroico animo aggressus, eundem felici successu fudit, fugavit, primamque persecutus victoriam, Regnum & Orbem admirandis progressibus implevit, communi *Hungarorum* consensu meritus, ut *Hungariae* & *Transylvaniae* Princeps pronunciaretur: vindex Libertatis, quam ex emortuali pulvere resuscitatam cum immortali sua gloria non tantum restituit, sed & Regi illius temporis, *Rudolphi* vide-licet Secundo, & ejusdem successoribus, ne limitatam & circumscriptam Legibus potestatem amplius transgrederentur, regnandi modum prescrip-fit.

Jam quieti & tranquillitati publicæ apprime videbatur prospectum, sancitis per Tractatum amplissimis conditionibus, quibus cætum erat per fidem & Diploma Regium, Li-bertatem imposterum tam Ecclesiasti-cam, quam secularem fore sartam, testam & securam; sed non multò post experti sunt Regnicolæ fallacem esse subinde spem, & mortalium vota fundamento niti admodum lubrico: erectus enim è vivis Serenissimus Bocskai brevi post pacem intervallo, adeoque præmaturâ morte, *Hungaria* dolorem, ambitui novam occasionem reliquit, dum eodem penè funerali actu & memoriae magni Libertatum vindicis

vindicis & relabenti Libertati parentur, factu ad omnem posteritatem memorando, dum novo quasi funeris regenitæ libertates immergerentur. Illic quippe occasiones erreptæ, pacta recentia, tanquam vi armorum extorta contra fidem & conditiones pacis, quæ omnino spontaneæ erant & liberae voluntatis, rescindendi.

at the same time Funeral Solemnities were performed both to the great vindication of Liberty, and relapsing Liberty it self, a matter to be remembred by all Posterity, that the newly recovered Liberties should have as it were a new Funeral, for presently the opportunity was laid hold of, to annul the new made Articles, as if they had been extorted by force of Arms against the Faith and Conditions of Peace, whereas indeed they were voluntary and free.

Quam effrænem licentiam, fideique & juris-jurandi rupturam graviter ferentes cordati Patriæ Cives, ut renovatis malis novam & efficacem medellam opponerent, ad priscam Regibus oppressoribus resistendi facultatem & Prædecessorum eorum protectionem respiciebant, confugiebantque.

Which unbridled License, and breach of Faith and Oath, the true-hearted People of the Country grievously resenting, that they might obviate renewed Mischief with a new and efficacious Remedy look'd back upon and betook themselves to that ancient Power and Protection of my Predecessors, (viz.) of resisting oppressing Kings.

Juvit piarum intentionum Zelum exquisitissimarum oppressionum atrocitas, juriumque Divinorum & humanae eversio, quibus commoti Antecessores mei, *Gabriel Betlin & Georgius Rakocius* primus gloriose reminiscientæ Principes (hic duplices injurias, totidemque Belli actus in unum compendium concludo, ad evitandam singularium enumeracionem) ut vicinum malum, in ipso, quod dicitur, ortu suffocarent & incumbentem onerosamque potentiam propellerent, afflictiones calamitosæ gentis suas esse rati, iisdem tollendis vel mitigandis omnem curam impenderunt, eo semper fine, ut insolentem & extravagantem Dominationem intra Legum & Privilegiorum Termenos coercerent, ne finale Religionis Libertatisque excidium florentissimum Regnum obrueret, cum damno & præjudicio totius Christianitatis.

The Zeal of pious Intentions was helped forward by the outrage of exquisite Oppressions, and the overthrow of Divine and Humane Laws, whereby my Ancestours, *Gabriel Betlen* and *George Rakocie*, the first Princes of Glorious Memory, being provoked, (here I comprise in one Abridgment double Injuries, and as many Acts of War, to avoid the Enumeration of Particulars) that they might (as they say) strangle a neighbouring Evil in the very birth, and repel incumbent and burthenous Power, and reckoning the afflictions of a Calamitous Nation their own, employed all care to remove or mitigate them, but always with that intent, to restrain an insolent and extravagant Domination within legal Bounds and Privileges, lest otherwise the final destruction of Religion and Liberty should overwhelm a most flourishing Kingdom, with the damage and prejudice of whole Christianity.

Arms being again resumed for defence of a most just Cause, which the Divine Power crowned with so great blessing, that the *Austrian Kings* being affrighted with increase of Arms, and unexpected Success, of their own accord offer'd Peace, concluded and confirmed it by Faith, and publick Royal Decree, but this Peace also, ratified by the vast strength of a double Treaty, did neither restore the hoped for Tranquillity, nor lasting Liberty; the Kings took occasion rather by such Truces, in a state of imaginary, and faithless Peace, by wonted and smooth Artifices, to infect and divide the Minds of the great Men and Nobles, whom by Force or War they could not break in pieces.

It would be too long, and a needless labour, to relate in a long course, the Calamities of former times, which since they are contained in the Monuments of History, I therefore repeat not the Memory of them. Leaving then things that are past, I will briefly enumerate the grievances of those that are present, that the whole World may judge, and know, that the *Hungarians* having suffered Violence, and Injuries, and being contrary to the King's Obligation, and Faith, and the Contents of Royal Sanction, and Publick Laws, deprived of all Liberty, have taken up lawful, and just Arms.

It is to be confess'd indeed, neither can it be recognized without deep sense of sorrow, that even his present Sacred, Imperial, and Kingly Majesty, soon from the beginning of the Government, conferred upon him, according to the manner, and ancient Custom, by free Voices, treading in the steps of his Predecessors, declined from the lawfull way of Governing, to the grievous and absolute form of Domineering: for nothing in the whole time of his

Arma iterum sumpta pro defensione justissimæ causæ, quæ divinum Numen tantâ benedictione coronaverat, ut Reges *Austriaci* incrementis armorum & insperato progressu teriti pacem ultrò proposuerint, conculserint, fideque & Diplomate Publico roboraverint, sed & ista pax per gemini Tractatus immane robur sancta, neque speratam tranquillitatem, neque duraturam Libertatem restituerat *Hungaros*: occasio potius capitata per similes inducias, Regibus, ut in statu imaginariæ & infidæ pacis, per consuetas & delenicas artes Procerum Nobiliumque inficerent atque dividerent animos, quos per vim bellumvè infringere non valuerunt.

Prolixum esset & supervacaneæ operæ præcedentium temporum calamitates longâ serie referre, quæ cum historiarum monumentis comprehensæ sint, idè memoriam earundem non repeto. Relictis igitur præteritis, præsentium gravitatem breviter enumerabo, ut universus Orbis judicet, & cognoscat *Hungaros* vim & injurias passos, omniq[ue] libertate, contra obligationem Regiam fidemque & contenta Diplomatis, Legumque publicarum, exutos, arma concessa & justa sumsisse.

Fatendum sanè est, neque sine intimo doloris sensu recognoscendum, quod & moderna Sacra Cæsarea Regiaque Majestas statim ab initio collati ex more & antiqua consuetudine, per libera suffragia regiminis, Prædecessorum suorum vestigiis insistens, à legitimo regnandi modo, ad prægravem & absolutam Dominandi formam deflexerit: Nihil enim totæ Regiminis tempore à consuetis & inveteratis contra libertatem moliminiis qibus remissum, parùm & nisi quod placebat,

placebat, ex publico jure supplican-
tibus concessum, imago quædam
Libertatis & ostamenta Regiæ
Clementiæ infensivis servitium por-
tendebant.

In hoc ita pressæ jamque exspiran-
tis Libertatis statu non deerant inter
Hungaros elevatæ generositatis animi,
qui infidiosis hifce machinationibus,
& exercitis in publicum exitium con-
siliis indoluerunt, vim & natæ fidei
rupturam modestè repræsentantes,
majori tamen Zele & conatu quam
effectu: sicut enim sua Majestas sum-
mum illud Purpuræ Decus præcerp-
tum præfloratumque acceperat, ita
dum id ipsum ex fide & obligatione
ad pristinam integritatem reducere
debuisset, per liberam potius & infi-
nitam potestatem gessit.

Hinc ex obseqnio & respectu Re-
giæ Majestati debito (cujus gens
Hungarica semper fuit observantissima)
primò precibus & supplicatio-
nibus tentatum rigorosi Dominatus
temperamentum: sed cum neque
querelæ, neque gravaminum toties
conscripta & repudiata volumina
vim inordinariae potestatis sifterent,
medela vulnerum in armis quæsita,
quæ publica Lex justa pronunciat &
legitima, eoque in casu arripienda,
quando Regum aliquis, non obser-
vatò ordinariae potestatis æquilibrio,
ad præpostera dominandi libidinem
contra apertissima jura & privilegia
Regni cum injuria & oppressione
Regnicolarum progradientur.

Atque utinam meliori ordine &

validiori conatu continuata snisset
cæpta pro Libertatibus armis! multo,
enim decentius honestiusque snisset

Reign was omitted of the usual and
inveterate Endeavours against Liber-
ty; little, and but what he listed, was
granted to Supplicants, according to
publick right; a certain Image of
Liberty, and shews of Kingly Cle-
mency, portended Servitude to the
defenceless.

In this state of liberty, so oppress'd,
and even expiring, there were not
wanting among the *Hungarians, Generous and Elevated Minds*, who laid
to heart these deceitful Machinations
and expert Counsels for publick De-
struction, and humbly represented
the Violence, and breach of pledg'd
Faith, but with greater Zeal and Ear-
nestness, than Effect: for as his Ma-
jesty had received that highest Royal
Honour cropt and defloured, so
whilst, according to Faith and Obli-
gation, he ought to have reduced
the same to former Integrity, he
Governed rather by *Arbitrary and boundless Power*.

Hereupon, from kind dutifulness,
and respect to Kingly Majesty, (of
which the *Hungarian-Nation* was
always most observant) It was first
tried by Petitions and Supplications,
to moderate a rigorous Domination:
but when neither Complaints nor
Volumns so often written, and re-
jected, could stay the Violence of
inordinate Power, a Remedy was
sought for those Wounds, by Arms,
which publick Law pronounces just,
and lawful, and to be laid hold of
in such a case, when any King not
observing the equal ballance of or-
dinary Power, proceeds to a prepo-
sterous Arbitrariness of Lording,
contrary to the most manifest Rights
and Priviledges of the Kingdom,
with Injury and Oppression of the
Inhabitants.

And would to God the Arms taken
up for Liberties, had been continued
in better Order, and more earnest
endeavour: for it had been more
becoming

becoming and honest, to have renewed
the brightness of obscured Liberty, by generous and constant Deeds, than
to undergo the Toak of shameful Slavery, through too much credulity and
fatal discord.

But the innate Inclination of the Hungarian-People to dissension, and the Word and Promises of the Sacred, Imperial, and Royal Majesty, which had a mighty bewitching power upon their minds, put a too hasty stop to so great Undertakings.

For as soon as it was known in the Court at Vienna, that thirteen Counties had put on Arms to vindicate their Liberties, forthwith he sent Letters to the said Counties, composed with exquisite Art, to divide their Minds, in which he offer'd Grace to all those, that repenting them of their defection, should return from the Rakocian-Party, to due Obedience to the King: It was added further, that what Offence had hitherto been committed, no Court, no Law should punish it; all should remain, as to Life, Fame, Fortune, the possession of Goods movable and immovable untouched and indemnified. When they understood that this Pardon was publickly ratified by the King's Faith, their Minds being hurried diverse ways, they lost their Heat and Vigour, and Imprudently laying down their Arms, went back to their repose indeed; but for a short time, they imagined that a place of great favour was open to those that would first occupy it, who (truly) under the shew of Indulgence were reserved to a securer Revenge afterward: for some paid it with their Lives, others with their Fortunes, others with perpetual Imprisonment; this never enough to be deplored Inconstancy did easily open a Gate to the Emperour's Forces, and gave them all Opportunities to effectuate their

generosis & constantibus factis renovare obfuscataam libertatis claritudinem, quam subire jugum, dedecrosa servitutis per nimiam credulitatem & fatalem discordiam.

Sed innatum Genti Hungarice disfidendi studium, & quæ ad effascinando animos efficacissimè erant, verbum & Promissiones Sacrae Cæsareæ Regiaeque Mattis, obicem tantis cœptis præproperè imposuerunt.

Quamprimum enim in Aula Vienensi innotuisset Tredecim Comitatus arma ad vindicandas Libertates induisse, illicè exquisita ad dividendos animos arte, Literas ad prædictos Comitatus exmisit, in quibus gratiam fecit iis omnibus, quicunque defectionis pœnitentes à Partibus Rakocianis ad obedientiam Regi debitam redierint: additum insuper, quicquid hactenus delictum esset, nullum forum, nullam Legem vindicaturam, omnes in vita, fama, fortuna, bonorum mobilium & immobilium possessione remanenturos illatos & indemnes. Hanc veniam Regiā fide publicè sanctam cum cognoscerent, rapti in diversas partes animi ardorem & impetum amiserunt, armisque imprudenter depositis ad quietem scilicet, sed brevem nimis, remigrarunt, existimantes ingentis gratiæ locum patere occupantibus, qui sub specie indulgentiæ ad securiorem postea vindictam reservabantur; alii enim vitâ, alii fortuniis, alii perpetuis carceribus multati. Hæc nunquam deploranda satis inconstantia, Portam Cæsareanis, omnemque occasionem effectuandarum intentionum facile aperuit, qui omni metu remoto in Hungariam Duce Generali sporkio ingressi, atque in intima Regni perpetantes, Urbes, Arces, Fortalitia, sine ullo suorum cruento & nece occuparunt; neque enim amplius erant, qui

qui se vi opponent; promissa gratia ludi-
ficiati.

His factis; processum ad omnis generis afflictiones, rapinas, turpitudinesque, quas effrenis & licentious miles passum exercuit contra tenorem dictarum literarum. & asecurationem Regiam: descedata & direpta Templa, Castella diruta, eversae nobilitares Curiæ, incaptivati raptique ad Tribunal Posoniense nobiles, promissæ Amnistia incaute fidentes: Multi tamen & cautiore, qui sub larva Regiae Gratiae fraudulenta molimina occultari præviderant, paratas insidias evi-
tarunt, in hanc Provinciam, meamque sub Protectionem confugientes.

Exhorri ad nuncium diræ calamitatis & improvisæ metamorphoscos: & quia turbinæ hunc in tempestates gravissimas orbique Christiano præjudicioras erupturum facile prævideram, statim Ablegatum meum ad Sacram Cæsaream Regiamque Mattem ex bona & sincera intentione emisi, repræsen-
tando Majestati suæ periculum, quod enasci poterit, si in sanando hoc morbo, a prioribus remedius uteretur: miti & remissa medicina agendum, ut in spem & fiduciam Regiae Clementias conciarentur animi; ne ad desperationem redacti, in cas prolaberentur ex-
tremitates, quæ aliquando Hungaria & toti Christianitati possent esse periculosæ. Sed hæc mea propositio, & rectum, sincerumque pro Publico commodo studium, quod iterum atque iterum reiterari difficulter auditum fuit, & sine decenti, desideratoque responso remissum: profundiores enim radices egerat absolute dominandi cupiditas, quam ut ver-
bis & persuasionibus evelli quiet.

Omnis actiones, totusque in Regno Pro-
cessus perfectam vim, non Regium gubernium redolebat. Nihil quod ex jure & Le-
gibus postulabatur, imperatum: nullius status certus: crimen, ubi opes, neque jam seculum sed præcipiti rigore ad omnia afflictio-
num genera progressum, ut apparceret occa-

intensions, who, now all fear being removed, entred into Hungary, conducted by General Spork, and crawling into the Bowels of the Kingdom, possessed their Cities, Towns, and Fortresses, without incurring any Wound, or Death, forthere were no longer any to oppose them by force; being beguiled by promise of Grace.

These things done, they proceed to all manner of Afflictions, Rapines, and Villanies, which the unbridled and licentious Soldier did every where commit against the tenour of the aforesaid Patents, and Royal Security: Temples were defiled, and taken away, Castles demolish'd, Noble Mens Courts overthrown, and Noble Men made Prisoners, and hal'd to the Tribunal at Pos-
onia, having unwarily given credit to a promised Oblivion: but many being more cautious, and foreseeing that under the mask of Kingly Grace, were hidden fraudulent Enterprises, they shunn'd the prepared Snares, and fled into this Province under my Protection.

I was taken with horrour at the tidings of this dire calamity and unlooked for Metamorphosis: and because I easily foresaw that this Whirlwind would break forth into most grievous tempests, prejudicial to the Christian World, I presently, from a good and sincere intention, sent my Envoy to his Sacred, Imperial and Kingly Majesty, representing to his Majesty, the danger that might ensue, if in curing this Disease, he should use the rougher Remedies: that mild and gentle Medicines should be administered, whereby the Minds of Men might be induc'd, to hope in, and trust to his Royal Clemency, and not, that being brought into desperation, they might fall into those Extremities, which might sometime be dangerous to Hun-
gary, and whole Christendom. But this my Proposal and upright and sincere Endeavour for publick good, which was reite-
rated again, and again, though difficultly getting Audience, was sent back without a becoming and desired Answer; for the lust of a absolute Demotion, had taken deeper root, than that it could be pulled up by Words and Perswasions.

All actions, and the whole procedure in the Kingdom smell'd rank of perfect Force, not Kingly Governance. Nothing that was required of Law and Right was obtained; No Man's Condition was certain, there was a Crime, where there was Wealth; and not by degrees, but with headlong Rigour they

proceeded to all sorts of Afflictions, that it might appear, the occasion long sought for, was now greedily laid hold on, whereby a Free Kingdom might be turned into an Hereditary Possession; presently Violence was used, the Honour of Liberties taken away, the Supporters of Laws depresso, the Nobles driven from their Inheritances and Houses into Banishment and proscribed, all their Goods being confiscated. Dignities, Honours, and Publick Offices, were bestowed upon Foreigners, in prejudice of the Rights of the Kingdom. Moreover, a Council of most rigorous Inquisition was instituted against the Vindicators of Liberty, and others, who they thought would contradict their unlawful attempts. Three Counts, by unlawful Proceedings, were condemn'd, and slain by the detestable hands of Common Executioners, to give a memorable Instance of Cruelty to the whole World: but neither did this suffice to fill up Revenge, the Injuries of this Bereaving were augmented, whilst Children, after their Parents kill'd, or banished, were afflicted with yet another Sorrow, being reduced to Beggary.

To this Tragedy was added the seizing of the Protestants Temples, wherein fury and madness raged with such fierceness, that one would have thought they had waged War with the Sacred Edifices, and that the Walls were Rebels; on a sudden the Ministers of the Churches were thrust out of the Parishes, and sent to exile; from others Promises of never returning being extorted by force and threatenings, that so they might Preach no more, they saved their Lives, and had liberty to depart out of their Country; many as it were peculiar Sacrifices were condemned and sent away to the Gallies, (*horrible and detestable the Example!*) that there leading a hard and sorrowful Life, they might be worn out with mourning, fitbines, toll, and fasting.

Besides the Violence of Persecutions, the execrable Domination over Conscience was persisted in: neither were Men allowed to be married, nor Infants to be baptized, but by a Catholic Administrator; Men were every where driven to Mass and Proccssions, by Force and Arms, and they that strove against it, suffered great Punishment and Fines.

sionem diu quæstam avidissime arripi, qua Regnum liberum in hæreditarium converteret; statim vis illata, libertatibus sublatius honor, Legum depresso Proceres, Nobiles a patriis Penatibus in exilium acti & proscripti, Bonis omnibus Fisco adjudicatis. Dignitates, Honores, & munia publica in præjudicium Jurium Regni Extraneis collata; institutum præterea rigorissimæ inquisitionis concilium contra vindices Libertatis, aliosque, quos illicitis combatibus contradictuos existimabant. Judicati illegitimo processu, cæisque fuselis carnificum manibus tres Comites, ut sisterent toto orbe memorandum atrocitatis documentum; sed neque hoc sufficiebat ad explendam vindictam: augebantur orbitatis injuria, dum posteri proscriptis vel interfectis Parentibus, alio insuper dolore, redacti ad mendicitatem, afficerentur.

Accedebat ad hanc Tragediam Temporum Evangelicorum occupatio: ubi furor & vesania cum tanto impetu desæviebat, ut bellum cum sacris Ædibus gerit, & muros rebelles existimares. Subito Parochiis exturbari Ecclesiarum Ministri, missique in Exilium, alii per vim & minas, extortis reversilibus ne amplius concionarentur, vitam & licentiam recedendi a Patria obtinebant: plurimi veluti piacularis victimæ condemnati, relegatique ad Triremes, (horribili profus & detestando exemplo) ut ibidem duram & anxiæ agentes vitam, luctu, squalore laboribus, & inedia consumerentur.

Instabat præterea vis persecutionum, & execrabile in conscientias Dominum: neque matrimonia, neque infantes baptisandi facultas concessa, nisi administris Catholicis: homines passim ad Missam & Proccssiones vi & armis pulsi, qui renitebantur, ingeribus penit, & pecunaria multa affecti.

Nec sceminae quidem exsortes periculi, quae, quia criminis laese Majestatis argui non poterant, ob lacrimas incusabantur; nefas erat & periculoso ingemiscere malis, interdictumque, ne capite damnatos propinquideferent.

Pecuniae per varias artes &c excoxitata nomina a misera plebe publice & privatim extortae: praesidia deducta atque imposta, Leges ex libidine imperata, ubique rapinae, depopulationes, calamitatumque & oppres-
sionum numerus innumerus.

His & aliis inexplicandis in iuriis atrocitatibusque concitatati Domini Exules, cum per extremam violentiam in ultimum vitæ, Libertatis, & fortunarum exitum præcipitati fuissent, & cum ab omni ope Christianorum destituti, nullam amplius spem mitigandæ severitatis superesse cernerent; sumpta tantis in necessitatibus resolutione, ut Regno & tot innocentium ruine subvenirent, ad gratiam fulgidæ Portæ Othomanicæ configuerunt, protectionem ejusdem contra injustissimam violentiam implorantes. Neque frustraneum erat propositum, facile admisæ preces, & quos prædura fors & nimia austernitas Patria extortæ reddiderat, iis Othomanica propensiō refugium, securitatem, & media ad sustinendam sustentandamque vitam benignè concessit. Ita saepe divinitatis opera ea sunt, ut furias in ipso iam successa securas, subita ultiō excipiat, ne vel unquam improbis terror, vel spes calamitosæ virtutis.

Scio euidem plurimos esse, qui hoc extremae necessitatis factum male interpretantur, gentemque Hungaricam præpostere sugillant, & tanquam degenerem a Christiano nomine criminantur: sed illi vel libertates Hungaricas in suis fundamentis ignorant, vel Partibus austriacis nimium velificantur.

Sciendum enim est, & probe notandum, Reges in Hungaria austriacæ familie per suffragia liberæ electionis (id quod in hoc Regno æquissimum juxta & antiquissimum imperii genus est) ad sceptrum & coronam

Neither indeed were the Women free from danger, who, because they could not be charged with Treason, were yet accused for Weeping; 'twas nefarious and dangerous to mourn under their Miseries, and forbidding them to bewail their Kindred condemned to dye.

Moneys were by various Arts and devised Names publickly and privately extorted from the miserable Common People; Garrisons drawn off, and [Others] imposed, Laws given from Lust; every where Ra-
pins, Spoils, and an innumerable number of Calamities and Oppressions.

By these and other unexpressable Injuries and Cruelties, the banished Lords were provoked, having been precipitated by extreme Violence to the utmost loss of Life, Liberty and Fortunes, and being destitute of all succour from Christians, they saw no further hope of mitigating this Severity, taking therefore resolution under so great Necessities for the relief of the Kingdom and so many Innocents exposed to ruine, they fled to the Favour of the Splendant Othoman Port, imploring the Protection of the same, against most unjust Violence. And their Proposal was not in vain; their Requests were easily admitted, for those whom extreme hard Fortune and too much Austerity had expelled out of their Country, to those the Othoman favourableness graciously granted refuge, security and means to sustain and support Life. Such oftentimes are the Works of the Divine Being, that when Furies are even in the middst of success secure, then sudden Vengeance overtakes them; that Terror may never be wanting to the wicked, nor Hope to calamitous virtue.

I know indeed there are many that put an ill construction upon this act of extreme necessity, and preposterously reproach the Hungarian Nation, and blame them as degenerate from the Christian Name, but these People are either ignorant of the fundamental Liberties of Hungary, or too favourable to the Austrian Party.

For they should know and well observe, that the Kings of the Austrian Family in Hungary obtain the Sceptre and Crown by Suffrages of free Election, (the same which in this Kingdom is both the most equal and most

most ancient kind of Government) and are bound by Faith and Oath, which under the open Canopy of Heaven they are wont to depose to preserve the Liberties.

From this Faith and Oath there arose a true and proper Obligation, which was necessary not only for exercising Government rightly and according to the Prescript of the Law and Royal Charter, but moreover gave power to the Palatine of the Kingdom, as to the Keeper of the Liberties, that he might, together with the People, contradict and resist the King, when degenerating from the allowed and ordinary Power, to Cruelty and an unjust License of Lording: Liberty therefore was not cut off, nor in case of reduction to due governance dispaired of, a power of procuring the Protection of any one, even the Ottomans, as being a neighbour Monarch.

Many Years are now pass'd, since this most unhappy Kingdom, being placed between two Powers, torn by the one, and pres'd by the other, represented to the whole World a miserable Tragedy, the former never took up Arms against Hungary, or laid them down, without an increase of his Empire, but with the diminution of the home Borders of the latter: whence it is come to pass, that almost the whole is fallen under the Dominion of a most potent Neighbour, wherefore since this Kingdom every where bordering upon a most mighty Monarch, must of necessity sustain his first Assaults, but the House of Austria in their Government hath never sought or intended any thing, beside the depression of the Hungarians and the subversion of their Liberties, and especially the modern Cesarian and Kingly Majesty hath forced the People of their own nature most plain and equal, to a disgraceful lowness and a miserable state, whilst desparation, which is most mighty in great perils, has armed them, and since by the space of eleven years exile, they neither saw nor could hope for any moderating of Oppressions, it seemed more advisable to fly to the Protection of a most Potent Prince, and to use his help in a Cause of the highest and inevitable Necessity, in respect to the common good, than either to grow old in mournful Banishment, or to precipitate that small part of the Kingdom yet remaining into manifest peril.

pervenisse, fide & jurejurando, (quod sub aperto celo, antequam coronarentur, depone moris erat) ad conservandas Libertates obstrictos.

Ex hac fide & jurejurando nata est vera & propria obligatio, quæ non solum ad Imperium recte & ex praescripto Legum Regiique Diplomatica exercendum necessaria erat, sed & insuper facultatem tribuit Palatino Regni, tanquam custodi libertatum, ut Regi, a cocclesia & ordinaria potestate ad saevitiam & injustam dominandi licentiam degenerantis, una cum Regnicolis contradiceret & resisteret: non igitur pascissa erat Libertas, in casu desperata ad legitimum gubernium reductionis facultas, protectionem cuiuscunque etiam Ottomanni, tanquam vicini Monarchæ, impetrandi.

Plurimi jam anni elapsi sunt, a quo infelissimum Regnum, inter duas Potentias possum, ab una discerptum, ab altera pressum in toto orbe miserabilem Tragediam representavit: illa nunquam aut movit contra Hungariam arma, aut depositus, sine Imperio sui augmento, antemuralis autem hujus immunitio: unde factum, ut pene tota in dominatum potentissimi vicini concesserit; proinde cum Regnum hoc Potentissimo Monarchæ ubique confine, primos ejusdem impetus sustinere necesse habeat, ipsa vero Domatia austriaca in regimine suo, præter depressionem Hungarorum & eversionem Libertatum, nihil unquam aliud quæsiverit & intenderit; maxime vero moderna Cæsarea Regiique Majestas, Cives sponte æquissimos, ad dedecorosam Lenitatem statumque miserabilem adegerit, eosdem armavit, quæ fortissima est in periculis desperatio; cumque per tempus undecennalis exilii moderamen oppressorum nullum viderent, neque sperarent, consultius videbatur ad potentissimi Principis protectionem confugere, ejusdemque auxiliis in summa & inevitabilis necessitatibus causa, ob respectum boni communis, uti, quam vel lugubri in exilio consenseret, vel illud exiguum Regni, quod adhuc superest, in manifestum discrimen precipitare.

Neque

Neque peini sunt Hungari, qui in sui Dæfensionem, Protectionem Ottomannicam 1537 plorarunt.

Henricus & Fredericus fratres Regis Castiliæ sedente Pontifice Clemente quarto, cum facies haberent Conadias, evocantes Terram Marique Saracenos, non ut Provinciam turarentur, sed ut Gallos Italosque Maximi milianus Austriae, ut & vim illatam arcere, & quæ præcipue ejusdem intentio erat, Rempublicam Venetorum evertentes, laboravit Tunc in subsidium provocare. Franciscus primus Rex Gallia cum animadverseret Gar. V. ambitionem & formidolosam potentiam, non dubitavit auxilia Turcam adscilere, sed neque nostris temporibus desideriorum erat Inclita Reip. Poloniae Tartaros contra Christianos, ut se defenderet, evocare.

Neither are the Hungarians the first, that have implored the Ottoman Protection in their own defence.

Henry and Frederick, Brothers to the King of Castile, Pope Clement the Fourth in the Chair, when they had the Comrades their Associates, called out the Saracens by Sea and Land, not to defend their Province, but to eject the French out of Italy. Maximilian of Austria, that he might repel the Violence offered, and which was his chief intention, that he might overthrow the Venetian Common-Wealth, laboured to provoke the Turk to his assistance. Francis the first, King of France, carefully observing the Ambition and Formidable Power of Charles the fifth, made no scruple to call in help from the Turks; neither was it disgraceful in our times for the renowned Common-Wealth of Poland to call out the Tartars against Christians, for the Defence of themselves.

Præmissis igitur ex rationibus & causis, judicet Christianus orbis, a gens Hungaria libertutæ constitutionis, quæ ex fundamento Iudicium & Privilegiorum suorum non tantum partem summi Imperii habebat, sed & in delatione Coronæ naturalem Libertatem exemptamque Regio Imperio (ut videlicet certo eventu Regi resistenter) sibi reservaverat, inique egerit, quod se protectione iniquæ Portæ, restitutionem Libertatis, securitatemque Religionis, vitae, honorum, & manutentionem omnipium Jurium, Cæsarea fide promittentis, submisericiter.

Let the Christian World therefore judge from the Reasons and Causes aforesaid, whether the Hungarian Nation, being of a most free Constitution, which by its Fundamental Rights and Privileges, had not only part of the Sovereign Power, but also in bestowing the Crown, had reserved to it self a natural Liberty, exempt from Kingly Government, (To wit in a certain Case [if it should happen] to resist the King) Judge [I say whether] they have done perversly, in submitting themselves to the Protection of the fulgent Port, that promises upon the Faith of an Emperour, the restitution of Liberties, and security of Religion, Life and Honour, with the maintenance of all Rights.

Ego vero, qui communis cum hac Gente origine, Hunnorum ex sanguine descendit, & a Deo omnium Regnum fundatore ad summum principale Hungariae Dominationis ideo me effectum agnosco, ut veluti in specula positus Libertatem religiosam quam civilem defendere, injuriisque praeter ullam cause justæ probationem populo libertimo illatus, in quantum possem, propellere conarer.

I now who am descended of the same common root with this Nation, of the Blood of the Hunns, and acknowledge my self therefore raised up by God the Founder of all Kingdoms, to the principal Throne of Government of Hungary, that placed as it were in a Watch-Tower, I might endeavour to defend Religious and Civil Liberties, and as much as in me lies repel the Injuries done to a most free People, without any proof of Just Cause.

These Respects and Causes have impelled me to take up Arms just and necessary for the vindication of Liberty and bringing back

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the banished and oppress'd; therefore no wise and upright Man will wonder at, nor blame my Zeal and Enterprise, since I have undertaken the defence of a most just Cause, of a Famous and Noble Nation, and which is the chief of my own Blood. My only aim is, that Divine Mercy assiting a Kingdom, in time past most flourishing, may be redeemed to its desired tranquility, and a most free Nation to an everlasting [Enjoyment] of their Ancestours Liberty, it is equal and agreeable to reason, to defend Liberty violated contrary to Faith, when that Right is allowed by manifest Privileges, It is just to undertake a defensive War for Friends and Kindred, that suffer unjust Violence; yea, the Bond of Men [as such] one with another, is most extensive, which even alone sufficeth for the bringing of Succour; neither is the right of Humane Society shut up, when oppressing Kings exercise such Injuries towards their free Subjects, as cannot be allowed by any equal and confederate Person.

For what remains, I exhort and warn, yea, I pray and beseech all the States of Hungary, that associating with me in Just and Pious Arms, they Endeavour by mighty Deeds, and a hearty Union, to bring back the Glory of worn out Liberty, to its former Splendour, let the Virtue of their Predecessours, who defended Liberty with their Blood and Life, return into their Breasts in a Matter of so great consequence, there is need of a sprightly and constant resolution, the rest are to be committed to Divine Providence, which prosper'd past Endeavours and Actions for vindication of Liberties with most happy Events.

The Controversie is not here about a private Concern, nor the dispute about Catholick Religion, which is founded upon the same common Privileges with the Protestant [or Evangelical] we contend for our Country, for Life, for Fortunes, for the Honour, for the Glory of the whole Nation, they seek an unjust Domination, [you] Blood and Fortunes: Do ye seek Liberty, which no good Men, no honest Men, no generous Man will lose, but together with his Life.

As for me, I am both mindful of Humane Infirmity, and I consider the Power of Fortune, neither do I deny that all things

atque oppressos. Idcirco nullus sapiens & rectus mirabitur, neque Zelum & institutum meum carpet, quando causæ justissimæ Gentis inclytæ & nobilis, & quod summum est, sanguinis mei defensionem suscepit. Meus unicus scopus est, ut divina aspirante eleminta, florentissimum quandam Regnum in desideratam tranquillitatem, & libertatem nationi adavit. Libertatis immortalitatem vindicetur. Equeum est & ratione conveniens, violatam contra fidem Libertatem, concilio per manifesta privilegia juri, defendere; justum est pro amicis & cognatis, vim iniustum passis, Bellum defensivum suscipere; hominum quippe inter se conjunctio latissime patens est, que vel sola ad opem ferendam sufficit: neque præcluditur jus humanæ societatis, quando Reges oppressores, eas in liberos subditos exercent injurias, quæ nullæ quo & recte sentienti probentur.

Quod superest, horror & admoneo, immo rogo & obtestor omnes status Hungariae, ut mecum justa & pia arma sociantes, amittantur per sortia facta & concordem unionem reducere ad pristinum splendorem, proximæ Libertatis gloriam. Redeat in praecordia, prædecessorum virtus, qui sanguine, quæ vita Libertates tutati sunt. Alaci in re tantæ consequentia & constanti opus est proposito, cetera divino Numinis committenda, qui præteritos, pro vindicanda Libertare, conatus, actionesque felicissimis eventibus cumulavit.

Non hic de privato res est, non de Religione Catholica disceptatio, quæ Communibus cum Evangelica nititur privilegiorum fundamentis. Pro Patria, pro vita, pro fortunis, pro honore, pro gloria totius Gentis agitur. Illi injustum Dominatum, sanguinem & fortunam petunt, Vos Libertatem queritis, quam nemo bonus, nemo honestus, nemo Nobilis, nisi cum vita simili amittit.

Quod ad me attinet, & humanæ infirmitatis memini, & viam fortunæ reputo, & omnia, quæcunque agam, subjecta esse mille casibus

casibus non infector : Cæterum quemadmodum in conscientia mea securus sum, caque intentione ex seculo & pacato statu, ad defensionem vestram, Deo Duce & Auxiliatore armatus proficiscor, quod nihil aliud in tenuam, nisi emolumentum publicæ salutis, ita evertum finemque prosperum indubitato spero.

Quod si autem aliqui invenirentur, qui in publicum Patriæ exitium partes contrarias sequantur, illorum contumaciam, si merita subsequatur pena, non mihi, sed suis propriæ culpa & temerario errori imputabunt ; spero tamen & confido omnes ordines, consilia, cogitationes, facta, intentionesque suas ad salutem Patriæ & ejusdem amplitudinem emolumendumque directuros. Sanguine majorum nostrorum parta est libertas, haecenus sanguine defensa; sanguine quoque ; ab oppressione & interitu vindicanda.

Sat premiorum, sat honoris erit, si vel defensam Patriam liber adspicit spiritus, vel ea collapsa vindex libertatis dextra, & insens animus inter cadavera suorum ad meliorem patriam migret.

Jehova, Deus Exercituum, Deus Justus & fortis, benedicat ex alto sanctis & licitis conatibus ; ipse sit moderator omnium & actionum & consiliorum : disponat & deducat ad sinceram concordiam diversos & dissidentes animos : corroboret sortes, anmet pusillanimes, faciatque ut omnia fusciantur, terminenturque ad sempiternam sui nominis Gloriam : eversarum Libertatum restitutionem : afflictæ gentis quietem tranquillitatemque : omnium & singulorum publicam & privatam felicitatem, Amen.

that I do are subject to a thousand Casualties, but yet as I am secure in my Conscience, and go forth in Arms, God guiding and assisting from a secure and quiet slate with such purpose for your Defence, that I intend nothing else, but the Advantage of Publick Safety, so I undoubtedy hope for a prosperous end and event.

But if any be found to follow the contrary part, to the publick ruine of their Country, if their contumacy meet with deserved punishment, they shall not impute it to me, but to their own fault and rash error ; yet I hope and trust, that all Ord~~en~~ will direct their Counsels, Considerations, Deeds and Intentions, to the Weal of their Country, and to the Greatness and Advantage thereof : Liberty was gotten by the Blood of our Ancestours ; it has hitherto been defended by Blood ; by Blood also must it be vindicated from Oppression and Destruction.

It shall be to me Reward enough, and Honour enough, if either my free Spirit may see my Country defended ; or if that be ruined, that my right Hand in vindication of Liberty, and my innocent Soul among the dead Bodies of such shall depart to a better Country.

Jehovah, the God of Hosts, the just and mighty God, blest from on high all righteous and lawful Endeavours, be he the Goverour of all both Actions and Coughs ; Let him dispose and bring to a sincere concord, contrary and disagreeing Minds ; Let him strengthen the strong, animate the weak, and cause that all things may be undertaken and ended to the everlasting Glory of his own Name ; the Restitution of overthrown Liberties ; the Quiet and Tranquility of an afflicted Nation ; the publick and private Happiness of all and singular. Amen.